

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

**USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office**

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**Weather:** Warm temperatures and dry conditions prevailed throughout the State. Low temperatures ranged from 38 degrees in Lorella to 58 degrees in Ontario. High temperatures ranged from 65 degrees in Crescent City to 97 degrees in Ontario. Only nine of the forty-three stations reported a measurable amount of precipitation. Joseph reported the highest amount of precipitation of 0.33 inches, followed by Redmond with 0.30 inches. Although more than half the stations have exceeded normal precipitation levels, the Joseph station struggles most with only 68 percent of normal seasonal precipitation.

**Field Crops:** Last week's weather was warm and dry, providing ideal conditions for crop progress and harvest. Winter wheat harvest began in the Willamette Valley. Field corn was doing well. Hay harvest continued, with second cuttings well underway in the eastern half of the state. Grass seed crops were being cut, dried and combined. Potatoes continued to bloom. The dry conditions sparked fires in some parts of the State, with minimal damage to field crops.

**Vegetables:** There was an abundance of fresh vegetables available at Farmer's Markets and roadside stands across the State. Sweet corn planting in Linn and Benton counties was catching up after a late start. Some early varieties of corn can be found at the market. Growers were harvesting green beans for processing in Yamhill County.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Orchard crops were late, but yields had been good with fine quality. Pear and apple trees did not look as loaded as they have in recent years. Summer apples were ripening, peaches were nearly ready, and the plum crop was down. Cherries were still strong, but reported to be down 30 to 50 percent in Lane County. Tart cherry harvest continued with excellent crop quality reported in Yamhill County. Late dark sweet cherries were being harvested too. Hand thinning of apples and other routine summer orchard operations continued throughout the Hood River Valley. Spotted Wing Drosophila continued to cause a lot of crop loss with cherries, caneberries, and blueberries. Blueberries and caneberries were being picked. Peach and wine grape producers were gearing up to protect crops. Wine grape crops continued to be late in Douglas County, but were filling out nicely in Josephine County.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Greenhouses were cleaning up in preparation for fall planting. Nurseries were busy with new stock and maintenance with stock on hand.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** In most areas, pasture conditions remained good. More livestock continued to be moved onto pastures in southwestern Oregon. All livestock were now on irrigated pastures in Jackson County. In Washington County, pastures were drying, and supplemental feeding was required.

**Soil Moisture - Week Ending 08/07/11**

	<b>Very short</b>	<b>Short</b>	<b>Adequate</b>	<b>Surplus</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	12	45	43	0
Subsoil	9	40	49	2

**Crop Progress - Week Ending 08/07/11**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>This week</b>	<b>Last week</b>	<b>Last year</b>	<b>5 year average</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Alfalfa hay, second cutting	66	42	83	90
Winter wheat harvested	29	18	68	74
Barley harvested	20	12	49	61
Spring wheat headed	96	90	100	100
Spring wheat harvested	12	7	60	60
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.7

**Crop Condition - Week Ending 08/07/11**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Very poor</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	0	1	15	64	20
Spring wheat	0	1	20	62	17
Barley	0	0	30	58	12
Corn	0	1	24	75	0
Range and pasture	10	13	25	45	7

## Western Oregon

**CLACKAMAS:** Fall wheat harvest finally got started this week. Nightly marine inflows slowed the combines' progress in wheat and grass seed fields. Cool daytime temperatures did not help. Pastures were still in good shape for this late in the year. Time to start preparing cows and calves for weaning.

**DOUGLAS:** A beautiful week of sunshine and warm temperatures had crops growing very well. Unfortunately the majority of our crops were 2 to 3 weeks later than normal development. Most vegetable crops would develop fine and have pretty good yields. Orchard crops were also late but yields had been good and quality fine. Wine grapes continued to be so late that growers will need near perfect weather in August, September and October for the grapes to mature properly. Most vineyards were still a few weeks away from veraison. Spotted Wing Drosophila vinegar flies had been causing a lot of crop loss with cherries, caneberries, and blueberries. Peach and wine grape producers were gearing up to protect crops. Irrigation water supply was ample this year. River levels only started dropping about two weeks ago.

**JACKSON:** This was another very hot, dry week, but good for haying and getting grain crops ready for harvest. Pears and apples were looking good, but trees did not look loaded as other years. Peaches were about ready for harvest. Blueberries and caneberries were being picked. Farmer's markets were now busy with more varieties of fresh vegetables. Lots of irrigation needed this time of year to get crops ready and ripen for harvest. Greenhouses were still mostly in clean-up and maintenance stage. Some were getting things set-up for fall plants. Nurseries were busy with new stock and keeping up stock on hand. Irrigation continued on pastures. Livestock on irrigated pastures were looking quite good. Many had been moved to higher ranges for the summer.

**JOSEPHINE:** Nighttime temperatures ranged from 48 degrees to 62 degrees. Daytime temperatures ranged from 79 degrees to 89 degrees. One morning was dewy, but no precipitation. Irrigating and weeding continued. Livestock were doing well. Fire season was still at high level. Harvesting of summer squash, potatoes, onions, cucumbers, cherry tomatoes, and green beans continued. Eggplant, kohlrabi, and bell peppers were forming fruit. Grapes were filling out nicely.

**LANE:** Good growing weather. Grass seed was being cut, dried, and combined. Hay was being cut and bailed, but first cutting may be delayed by to three weeks. Seed and grain harvest slowly continued. Heavy dew and clouds delayed thrashing until afternoon. The crops were generally good but vary a lot due to soil type and disease. Raspberries had a mediocre crop and small berries. Spotted wing drosophila was observed along River Road and Eugene. Summer apples were ripening. Peaches were nearly ready and plum crop was down. Cherries were still strong but crop down possibly 30 to 50 percent. Blueberries had a big crop and picking continued. Blackberries had a good crop and picking started.

**LINN/BENTON:** Weather in the Willamette Valley remained dry this past week allowing farmer's good days for harvesting. Farmers markets were overflowing with fresh produce. Planting of corn crops were delayed earlier but seem to be catching up with the warm weather. No information yet on conditions of harvested crops. Some of the farmers forecasted low yields.

**WASHINGTON:** Grass seed was combined, straw baled, and in the storage shed in many areas. Crimson clover harvest was done and bees were in red clover. Some field corn was doing well. Winter wheat harvest was underway. Blueberries, raspberries and blackberries were being harvested. Sweet corn was now growing well and all vegetables were being harvested and found at farmer markets and roadside stands. Greenhouses and nurseries were cleaning and preparing for fall planting and harvest. Livestock were all looking good and pastures were holding well. High temperature was 81 degrees and low temperature was 48.7 degrees, with no precipitation. Warmer nights helped crops grow.

**YAMHILL:** Tall Fescue harvest was winding down. Lots of grass straw bales had left the tall fescue fields or were stacked and waiting to be removed. Perennial rye was getting swathed and winter wheat harvest got started. This week's warmer weather allowed maturity levels of tree fruits to advance. Tart cherry harvest continued. Crop quality was excellent. Late dark sweet cherries were being harvested. Farmers markets were very active with a great variety of choices. You can find a few ears of sweet corn in the farmers markets but not a great abundance yet. Processed green bean harvest was in full swing. Blueberries, raspberries, marionberries, blackberries, cherries, and peaches were available around the county in the farmers markets, roadside stands and U-pick farms.

## Eastern Oregon

**HOOD RIVER:** Dry conditions and seasonably moderate temperatures prevailed through the week. Cherry harvest continued in the lower and middle Hood River Valley. Hand thinning of apples continued in the upper valley and routine summer orchard operations continued throughout the valley.

**KLAMATH:** Another hot week with temperatures in the mid 80's. Second cutting hay continued. Grain crops were turning yellow. Potatoes were still blooming.

**LAKE:** Thunderstorms in some portions of the county sparked fires.

**MALHEUR:** A few wheat producers were reported harvesting 15 bushels to 25 bushels lower than average. The wheat crop was looking good but yields are down a little from the cool weather. Grasshoppers infested fields

that were next to range ground. Damage to the crops was unknown at this time.

**SHERMAN:** Harvest had been worth the wait. However, early reports were coming in with yields ranging from 12 percent to 45 percent above average. Difference seemed tied to seeding date, fertilizer and disease. A couple of small fires, with minimal grain loss, but one larger fire had closed a popular access road. No impact to farming but hurts the recreation industry in the area.

**UNION:** Very cool nighttime temperatures and mild daytime temperatures through the week had slowed heat unit accumulation.

**WALLOWA:** Thunderstorms throughout the week.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: August 7, 2011 (as of 11:00 am) <sup>1</sup>**

Station	Air temperature <sup>2</sup>				Growing degree days <sup>3</sup>		Last week precip. <sup>4</sup>			Season cum. precipitation <sup>5</sup>			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Total	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Total inches	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Days <sup>7</sup>	Total inches	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Pct. normal	Days <sup>7</sup>
<b>COASTAL AREAS</b>													
Astoria	46	71	61	+1	79	+2	0.03	-0.18	2	82.76	17.48	127	225
Bandon <sup>8</sup>	49	67	59	+0	65	+2	0.01	-0.13	1	55.14	-2.92	95	203
Crescent City	51	65	58	-1	61	-2	0.02	-0.12	2	64.83	0.44	101	159
Florence	44	72	59	-2	66	-6	-	-0.21	-	80.57	5.25	107	207
North Bend	52	68	60	+0	72	+2	-	-0.14	-	47.98	-14.50	77	150
Tillamook	46	73	63	+5	95	+32	-	-0.28	-	80.46	-6.69	92	201
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Aurora <sup>8</sup>	53	85	69	+2	131	+12	-	-0.14	-	51.28	11.04	127	193
Corvallis	49	85	68	+1	125	+6	-	-0.14	-	45.82	3.85	109	193
Detroit Lake <sup>8</sup>	52	87	69	+6	137	+41	-	-0.21	-	99.47	33.00	150	204
Eugene	47	85	68	-2	126	+0	-	-0.16	-	39.89	-8.56	82	155
Hillsboro	47	84	66	-1	112	-7	-	-0.18	-	39.79	3.11	108	181
McMinnville	49	85	68	+2	127	+8	-	-0.11	-	44.49	1.93	105	176
Portland	55	84	69	+0	138	+4	-	-0.17	-	47.25	11.87	134	182
Salem	51	86	69	+2	133	+11	-	-0.13	-	47.67	9.14	124	170
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	55	94	73	+1	163	+6	-	-0.07	-	41.91	11.31	137	150
Medford	56	95	76	+3	183	+15	-	-0.07	-	21.92	3.51	119	115
Roseburg	53	88	71	+1	146	+6	-	-0.10	-	38.39	6.22	119	163
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	50	89	70	+3	141	+22	-	-0.14	-	17.78	4.30	132	136
Echo <sup>8</sup>	56	95	77	+4	190	+25	-	-0.07	-	12.63	4.00	146	120
Heppner	51	90	71	+1	150	+10	-	-0.12	-	18.57	5.23	139	129
Hermiston	53	95	75	+2	177	+12	-	-0.07	-	13.05	4.42	151	115
Madras <sup>8</sup>	47	89	69	+2	137	+11	-	-0.07	-	11.28	1.33	113	112
Moro	49	89	70	+2	141	+8	-	-0.07	-	14.91	4.19	139	103
Parkdale <sup>8</sup>	45	85	65	-4	106	-20	-	-0.07	-	46.32	16.02	153	172
Pendleton	48	95	73	-2	160	-8	-	-0.07	-	17.70	6.14	153	128
Prairie City <sup>8</sup>	47	89	69	+2	137	+11	-	-0.07	-	11.28	1.33	113	112
The Dalles	56	93	75	+8	174	+50	-	-0.07	-	15.08	3.00	125	115
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Agency Lake <sup>8</sup>	44	84	64	+1	102	+4	-	-0.14	-	17.56	1.96	113	107
Bend	50	89	68	+5	128	+30	-	-0.10	-	7.80	-3.42	70	54
Burns	43	90	68	+2	129	+14	-	-0.14	-	15.09	5.65	160	123
Christmas Valley <sup>8</sup>	43	88	65	-5	109	-24	-	-0.12	-	10.16	-1.74	85	128
Klamath Falls	46	86	66	-3	117	-9	-	-0.14	-	10.58	-2.44	81	84
Klamath Falls <sup>8</sup>	47	85	66	-3	114	-12	-	-0.14	-	13.26	0.24	102	114
Lakeview <sup>8</sup>	41	85	64	-4	98	-21	0.05	-0.02	1	15.86	0.71	105	127
Lorella <sup>8</sup>	38	87	64	-5	99	-27	-	-0.14	-	13.69	0.67	105	115
Redmond	42	92	67	+1	124	+6	0.30	0.22	1	11.50	3.40	142	89
Worden <sup>8</sup>	44	83	64	-5	97	-29	0.01	-0.13	1	12.86	-0.16	99	101
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	40	92	68	-1	125	+0	0.01	-0.18	1	13.22	3.10	131	126
Joseph	48	88	69	+8	132	+53	0.33	0.12	2	16.21	-7.73	68	132
La Grande	45	90	70	-1	141	-2	-	-0.18	-	17.97	1.27	108	138
Imbler <sup>8</sup>	46	91	70	+3	139	+16	-	-0.14	-	21.95	-0.79	97	150
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	58	97	78	+2	197	+12	-	-0.07	-	12.06	2.75	130	99
Rome	47	96	72	+1	160	+5	0.01	-0.06	1	14.33	6.47	182	103

<sup>1</sup> Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2011: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

<sup>2</sup> Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

<sup>3</sup> Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

<sup>4</sup> Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

<sup>5</sup> Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2010.

<sup>6</sup> DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normal period).

<sup>7</sup> Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

<sup>8</sup> Agri-Met weather stations.